

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2001-6-G - ORDER NO. 2001-1008

OCTOBER 16, 2001

IN RE: South Carolina Electric and Gas Company –)	ORDER GRANTING
Annual Review of Purchased Gas)	INTERVENTION OUT
Adjustments (PGA) and Gas Purchasing)	OF TIME
Policies.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Petition of the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina (Consumer Advocate) to be allowed to intervene out of time in the annual review proceeding of South Carolina Electric and Gas Company's (SEC&G) purchased gas adjustment (PGA) and gas purchasing policies. The Consumer Advocate's Petition, filed with the Commission October 15, 2001, noted that pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 37-6-604 (Supp.2000), and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-830 et seq., (1976 and Supp. 2000), the Consumer Advocate has the discretionary duty to provide legal representation of the consumer interest before state regulatory agencies when such agencies undertake rate or price adjustments for consumer products or services, and therefore, the Consumer Advocate believes it necessary to intervene as a formal party in this matter. The Consumer Advocate states as reasoning for the late intervention is that actual notice of this proceeding was not received. The Consumer Advocate further states that he does not seek to file testimony or cause delay in the scheduled hearing before the Commission and believes that no party would be prejudiced by granting the requested intervention.

We would note that SCE&G did fully comply with the Commission's notice requirements by publication of the Notice of Filing in newspapers of circulation in the affected areas, and by furnishing a copy of the Notice to each of its customers by U.S. Mail. SCE&G provided proof of the publications and certification that notice was furnished to all customers. Additionally, it is noted that counsel for SCE&G has informed the Commission that SCE&G would not oppose the intervention, but remain neutral, on the grounds that the scheduled hearing would not be postponed.

Considering the fact that SCE&G does not object to the late intervention, and that no party will be prejudiced by allowing the intervention out of time, we hereby grant the Petition for intervention out of time filed by the Consumer Advocate.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Chairman

ATTEST:



Executive Director

(SEAL)